CLAIMS:

5

10

20

- 1. A sound reproduction system comprising a digital audio signal input (1), a digital audio signal processor (2, DSP) and a digital audio signal output (1) wherein the digital signal processor (2, DSP) comprises a high pass (HP) filter (21) with a pass frequency (f) of between a first and a second frequency, a compressing amplifier (22) for compression and amplification of a signal, at least amplification being performed after HP filtering, and a clipper for clipping the HP filtered, compressed and amplified signal above a clipping level.
- 2. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pass frequency (f) is a frequency between 300 Hz and 2 kHz.

3. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the high pass filter is a first order or second order filter.

- 4. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the device comprises a measuring device (130) for measuring background noise and an adaptor 131 for adapting one or more parameters (f, order) for the high pass filter (HP).
 - 5. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the pass frequency is adaptable between 50 and 2 kHz.
 - 6. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compressing amplifier is arranged not to amplify a signal having a signal strength below a threshold value.
- 7. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device comprises a measuring device 130 for measuring background noise and an adaptor 131 for adapting one or more parameters for the compressing amplifier (22).
 - 8. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the digital audio processor comprises a low pass filter (23) for filtering the signal provided by the

WO 2005/004114 PCT/IB2004/051118

21

compressing amplifier and for providing an output signal, the pass frequency of the low pass filter (f') lying in the range 2 kHz-Fs/2 where Fs is the sampling frequency.

- 9. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the device
 5 comprises a measuring device 130 for measuring background noise and an adaptor 131 for adapting one or more parameters (f") for the low pass filter.
 - 10. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the system comprises a means for activation and/or setting of the frequency dependence of the low pass filter in dependence on the amplification in the compressing amplifier.

10

15

25

30

11. A sound reproduction system as claimed in any of the claims 4, 7 or 9, wherein the one or more of the said parameters is a non-linear function of the measured noise level.

12. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system comprises the high pass filter followed by an AGC followed by a limiter/clipper.

- 13. A sound reproduction system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system
 comprises an automatic volume leveler preceded, or preferably, followed by the high pass
 filter, providing a leveled signal, followed by a gain and a clipper.
 - 14. A method for processing digital sound signals in which method frequency component of the sound signal lower than a cut-off frequency (f) between a first and a second frequency are attenuated, the sound signals are amplified and compressed to within a signal band width and clipped above a clipping level within the signal band width.
 - 15. A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the cut-off frequency is between 300 Hz and 2 kHz.
 - 16. A method as claimed in claim 13 wherein a noise level is measured and the cut-off frequency (f) is determined in dependence on the measured noise level (S).

WO 2005/004114 PCT/IB2004/051118

22

- 17. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cut-off frequency is determined by a non-linear function of the noise level (S).
- 18. A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cut-off frequency ranges between 50 Hz and 2 kHz.
 - 19. A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein after compression and clipping frequency components of the resulting digital signal below a cut off frequency f' between 2 and 4 kHz are attenuated.

20. A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein a noise level is measured and the cut-off frequency (f") is determined in dependence on the measured noise level (S).

21. A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the cut-off frequency (f') is determined by a non-linear function of the noise level (S).

10

20

- 22. A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein activation and/or setting of the frequency dependence of the low pass filter is performed in dependence on the amplification in the leveling amplification step.
- 23. Computer program comprising program code means for performing a method as claimed in any one of claims 13 to 22 when said program is run on a computer.
- 24. Computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing a method as claimed in any one of claims 13 to 22.